THE DESCRIPTION OF THE Caſtle of Entertainment: AS ALSO The Wonderful Increaſe of the Race OF THE HUFFS,

Together with

The Relation of their Firſt Original, as it was Atteſted by

Old Mother Huff

In ſtrange Characters, and ſince Diſcover'd and Copied out by a Pilgrim in the Year 1668.

IT fortuned in *Auguſt* 1668, that two Pilgrims went out of the Famous Caſtle in *Parſonage Iſland*, to viſit on foot a Forein Shrine they had never before ſeen. They had ſcarce gone any weary Steps before by a ſmall Houſe lately Inhabited by a Knight of *Acteons* Order, and his Wandering Lady, in whoſe room now reſides Sir *Joannes*

Winnow-corn and Dame *Skreen-face* his Wife. From thence they went by one of *Vulcan's* Forges; then aſcending up a ſhort Hill, and ſo through a plain even way, that brought them to another longer Hill, on both ſides beautified with goodly Fabricks. Arriving to the height they viewed a Chapel on their right hand, where looking up to ſee where the Wind ſate, (the better to ſteer their conrſe) their Expectations became fruſtrate, for the diſcourteous Weathercock had taken his flight and forſook his Perch. From thence they ſuddenly paſſed through a very High Gate, arched over with an Edifice of Brick, much differing from the Form of the *Ægyptian Pyramids*. Thence taking their way on their left hand, they entered into ſolitary Groves through lower Gates, till they came to a certain Thicket, bearing the name of wicked *Cain*, but on what account ſo called thoſe ſilent Trees could not inform them; they nevertheleſs were confident, that neither that Fratricide, nor any of his Poſterity, ever came thither, much leſs planted that Wood. Thus ruminating in their thoughts, they found Diverſion by beholding a ſumptuous Fabrick there erected. Having ſome time admired it they went on, till they exchanged thoſe melancholy Paths to an open Deſart on a Mountain, which invited their eyes to delightful Objects round about. Among the reſt one that ſeems wonderful to report; for on a Hill they beheld a Harrow of ſuch vaſt extenſion, that it lay upon more ground than Ten Yokes of Oxen with Ten Ploughs can plough in Ten Days. Through this pleaſant way the Pilgrims ſtill continued their Travel along by the Pillar of Salutation, and then near to the Tower of the four flying Streamers, till at laſt by diligent labour and ſtrict inquiry they arrived at the place deſired.

What ſignal Favours they there received from the Munificence of Perſons of high Honour, as alſo the Courteſies ſhew'd to them from others of lower Rank, ſhall here be wholly omitted, becauſe meriting better Record in the Regiſter of Grateful Memory, and therefore above the ſcope of this Diſcourſe. It ſhall here then ſuffice to relate onely what an admirable Cave they beheld within thoſe Territories, ſo ſtrangly framed by Nature, that it ſeemed in all reſpects quite

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contrary to other common Caves; for whereas they lie fixed under grownd, and are dark and empty, this appeared high above ground, in frequent motion, pleaſantly lightſom, and repleniſhed with commendable Endowments.

The Pilgrims having there preſented their obliged Homage, departed thence toward the *Caſtle of Entertainment*, by the Invitation and Conduct of a courteous Knight in Black Armour, in company of a ſingle Damoſel, and her Sweetheart a merry Falconer, where after a ſhort Journey (partly by Water, for they ſeldom trod on dry Land) they ſoon arrived. They found the Caſtle ſeated on the ſide of a Mountain in a ſmall Grove of ſhady Trees, but of an indifferent proportion, neither high nor large, but well contrived into little Rooms, all within ſound of the Sentinel's Trumpet; well defended not onely by its own proper Garriſon, but alſo by Auxiliary Forces in great numbers daily repairing thither. The Gates ſtanding open towards the top of the Mountain, they reſolutely entered in without the leaſt Reſiſtance or Diſpute; where no ſooner ſet down, but there were ſome brought in whoſe Faces were full of Black Patches; whom when the Black Knight aforeſaid had eſpied, he cauſed them without mercy to be deſtroyed as many as appeared in his ſight, ſome drowned, and others broken in pieces on a Wooden Engine, ſo long till the elder of the Pilgrims (not enduring any longer to behold ſo cruel a Maſſacre) was enforced to call away the other Pilgrim and depart; and by the way, far enough from the Caſtle, upon an inviſible Pillar, in Characters ſo ſtrange were never yet peruſed, read as followeth.

I Mother Huff, having in my Youth been croſſed in Worldly Affairs, (though always ſubtil and covetous) for which cauſe in my elder years I betook my ſelf to yonder Caſtle, where I adopted one Yeſticus Huff *for my Son, who (by the aſſiſtance of other his Aſſociates) compoſed for my uſe an Enchanting Liquor, ſo pleaſant to the Taſte, and lofty in Operation, that in ſhort time it filled my Caſtle with Gueſts, and my broad Pouch with jingling Caſh. Soon after it chanced that my ſaid Son* Yeſticus *grew enamour'd of a Damoſel named* Flourca, *whom by the power of my Charms I procured to be fetch'd (hood-wink'd in a Bag) from the Tower of the four flying Streamers, and having craf-*

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tily ſifted out her Heart, in fine I adorned her with Beauty Spots, and brought my Son and her together; from which Conjunction in few hours were produced many Dozens of young little Huffs; nor were they improperly call'd ſo, for no ſooner were they in view, but they preſently ſwell'd bigger, and were huffed up through the Ambition naturally derived to them from their Father, who ever ſought for Superiority, and was therefore exiled from a Boarded Houſe near adjacent, called Hoop Caſtle, *when firſt I took him into my houſe. In brief, this Spotted Huffing Progeny daily multiplied ſo faſt, that the report thereof ſpread throughout the Countrey, by which means I got the Name of* Mother Huff, *which to this day I own, as I do them alſo for my adopted Of-ſpring. But ſuch was the cruel Fate that attended them, that my Neighbours in jealouſie, leſt they ſhould over-run their Confines, conſpired againſt them, laid violent hands on them, and did murther them daily before my face; yet it did the leſs grieve me, for that notwithſtanding they ſtill encreaſed, and I hope will ſtill do. And now conſidering that I grow old, and muſt die and leave them whether I will or no, leſt my Name and Fame ſhould periſh among them, I have here erected this Monument in theſe unknown Figures, to declare to Poſterity their wonderful Original, and my ſingular good Affection towards them, wiſhing them ſtill to reſide in my Caſtle, which I bequeath to them and their Succeſſors for ever, on theſe conditions, that henceforth it be called the* Caſtle of Entertainment, *and that the Gates ſhould ſtand open all day in an hoſpitable manner, to admit any in for their Money, and not otherwiſe, according to my own Laudable Cuſtoms. And ſo I bid the World Farewell.* 1679.

The Pilgrims having taken a Copy thereof, it is here written for private Recreation, and not for publick Benefit.

FINIS.